

**HARVEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUBLIC MINUTES
4 AUGUST 2014**

Attending: R. Wayne Clark, Lila Givens, Arash Kani, Leah Madsen, Diane Simpson (Board Administrator), Stephanie Souza, Andrea Steele, Mike St. Clair (General Manager, via telephone).

Absent, Excused: Matt Auerbach, Stephanie Golas

Guests: Corie Scibelli, Kashif Hoda, Ellen Dickenson, Paul Vencia, Dave Madigan, Amanda Fish

Meeting minutes taken by Diane Simpson

The meeting commenced at 6:53 p.m.

Vote Key

Votes are recorded in this order: For, Against, Abstaining

Agenda Review

Election Committee Update: pared down to 5 minutes

Added: CDS: 10 minutes

Added: Vice President: 5 minutes

Update and Personal Space

Member Comment

Dave asked about the staff treatment committee and if the task force had any questions for him. There were no questions at this time.

Tabling Update

Tabling: Harvest members are asking about the effect of H-Mart.

Tabling: Comment on deli: a customer really misses it.

Andrea handed out four Board applications at Cambridge store in June.

July Minutes and Action Items

First, third, and fourth action items done; block party is coming up later this week.

Motion: Approve July Public minutes. The motion was moved and seconded.

Approved 4-0-2

Election Committee Update

Andrea has been in contact with potential candidates and there is person coming in September. Everybody on the Board urged to recruit at least one person and there is no plan to fill Dave Madigan's seat with an appointee.

MSCC Update

Chloe talking to Nina Hooper, who runs “The Holistic” about a workshop for members. Chloe open to new ideas--email her.

ACTION ITEM Stephanee to email Chloe about Mike’s meeting at *Honest Weight* Co-op.

Tabling

The Board discussed whether tabling should be done on August 13 or on another weekend.

ACTION ITEM Andrea to contact Chris directly about tabling.

Board Monitoring

Next month the Board will do August and September monitoring since only half the Board responded this month.

CDS Consulting Update

Tabled to next meeting because the president needs some information from the Treasurer. The Board has run out of CDS consulting hours. The consultant is extremely useful. For the rest of just under \$2000 is amount estimated. It will be on next month’s agenda.

ACTION ITEM Arash: pull up the budget and prepare it for the next meeting.

Elect Vice President

Motion: Approve Lila Givens for Vice President. The motion was moved and seconded. Approved 6-0-0.

Member Comment

Reopened for Amanda, evening manager at the South Street store in Jamaica Plain. Amanda has concerns for the store. (It’s the oldest store.) Where is the store going in the future? Also there are some structural issues. Employees have not been informed of where things stand right now. Also, the location of this meeting is really inaccessible for the members in JP. A lot of members join the co-op but she doesn’t see people being active in it.

Stephanee said she might be able to have some of the Board meetings over in JP at the new Equal Exchange office.

In response to a question about public updates on the South Street store, Mike said that our lease ends next February and that negotiations are pending with the landlord to find out if the store will be able to continue in that location. Mike made a proposal to the landlord but has not heard back yet. The proposal includes store maintenance to support the current level of refrigeration. The Board discussed having a South Street committee once the landlord responds.

In response to a question about how the Cambridge store is holding up in light of H-Mart, Mike said H-Mart had a 9 or 10% impact initially but it has softened to 6-8% now. Traffic has died

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down over there quite a lot. Produce was impacted more than other departments. He said Harvest is holding up pretty well considering the resources that company has to break into a new market. In response to a question about Market Basket, Mike said that did not impact Harvest at all.

Motion: Close the public meeting. The motion was moved and seconded. Approved 6-0-0.

The public session closed at 7:35 p.m.

ACTION ITEM Stephanee to email Chloe about Mike's meeting at *Honest Weight* Co-op.

ACTION ITEM Andrea to contact Chris directly about tabling.

ACTION ITEM Arash: pull up the budget and prepare it for the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM Diane to make corrections to the Officers and Directors form and re-send to directors.